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THE

LETTERS

OF

ATTICUS,

As printed in the line 7. Cooke

London Journal,

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YEARS 1729 and 1730,

ON

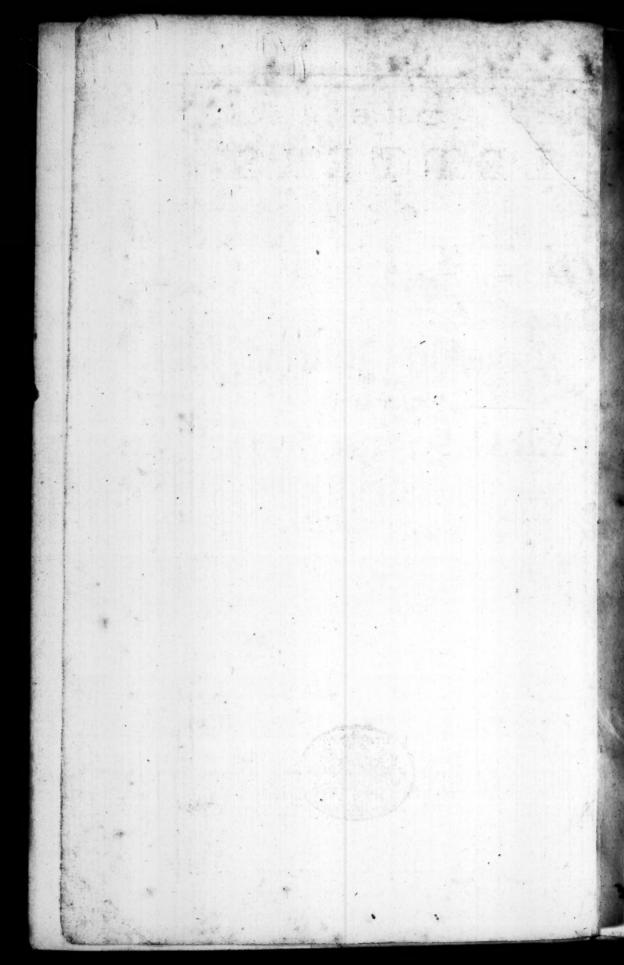
Various Subjects,

WITH

An INTRODUCTION, containing a short Survey of public Affairs from the Time of the Spaniards besieging Gibraltar to the Year 1731, and an Enquiry into the Reasons why some modern Writers assume to themselves the great Names of passed Ages.

London: Printed by J. Chrichley, at the London Gazette, at Charing-Cross; and sold by J. Roberts in Warwick-Lane, 1731.

Feb. 731





T O Horatio Walpole Esq;

SIR,

HILE your Brother has been indefatigable at Home for the Interest of his Country, you have not been less assiduous in faithfully discharging the Trust reposed in you abroad; and while we feel the Benefits of such an Administration of Affairs as we are now blessed with, the envious and malevolent Calumnys of your Enemys are so many Panegyrics on your Worth.

A 2

Grati;

The DEDICATION.

Gratitude for the Advantages which we enjoy under a just and prudent Ministry, and the Pride of appearing an Advocate in the Cause of Truth, were the chief Motives of my writing the following Discourses relating to the Public; and great is the Pleasure that I now feel from having no Reason to retract any Part of them.

Give Me Leave, Sir, to submit the following Pieces to You; and indulge the Ambition which I have of approving Myself, with an unseigned Respect,

your most obedient

kumble Servant, &c.

February 1731.

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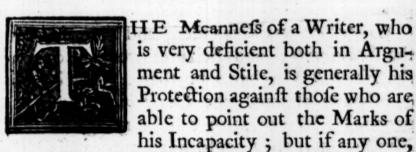
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THE

INTRODUCTION,

Containing a short Survey of public Affairs from the Time of the Spaniards besieging Gibraltar to the Year 1731, and an Enquiry into the Reasons why some modern Writers assume to themselves the great Names of passed Ages.



unequal to the great Task of benefiting Mankind by his Pen, should take an Advantage over the Weakness of such Men as are too prone to listen to Slander, and should propagate Falsehoods of the most malevolent Kind, he would take away the Censure which might otherwise attend a good Writer's Condescension in answering him. Such is the Case betwixt frozed to print Remarks on the licentious and treasonable Ribaldry which he has weekly exhibited to the Public.

I shall not here pretend to enter into the Motives of the Craft sman, and his Correspondents, for abusing the Government. All the just and prudent Steps which have been pursued by the Ministry have been so many Themes of Calumny to them; and every Degree of Success in the Administration of public Affairs has so evidently encreased their Rage, that we may reasonably suppose they had rather see the Nation plunged in continual Difficultys, than that they should want Subjects for cavilling and Complaint. A short Review of some Transactions passed will, in some Measure, prove the Truth of this Observation.

the Spaniards; and Seizures were made on the English Merchants by them. These Circumstances alarmed the Crastssman, who opened his Mouth with a full Cry against the Ministry, as if they could have prevented such Proceedings, whether they foresaw them or not. After the Attempts of the Spaniards against Gibraltar appeared, the King of Great Britain interposed; he bravely afferted and maintained his Right to that Fort, and wisely and justly procured the Means of Redress for his injured Subjects. Did the Clamours of the Crastssman provoke the King and Ministry

to these Acts of Justice? No; the Crast sman impudently and unasked bawled out, in the Name of the People, for Redress, like an impatient Infant that crys for Provision while the

Nurse is providing it.

Gibraltar is our own; and Reparation is obtained, by Treaty, for the Losses which the English Merchants have sustained. Commisfarys are appointed on both Sides to confider their Demands, and the Equity of them : but the Craft sman would have all this but the Work of a Day, without any Allowance made for the Distance of Places, for Time for the Merchants to make their Demands, to have Witnesses examined, and without any Allowance for many other Circumstances necessary to be observed for the Execution of Justice. Since he has been laughed out of these, and many other, idle Cavillings, the good Man has been very tender for the Interest of the Emperor, and, looking on himself as a German more than an Englishman, has loyally fet forth the Inconveniencys to which his Mafter the Emperor is subjected by the Treaty of Seville; but if any Proposal should be made for the better Security of the King of Great Britain's Dominions in Germany it would meet with Opposition from him.

The State of Dunkirk occasioned the Waste of no small Quantity of Words. Dunkirk is demolished, and the pretended Patriot laments the Demolition of so fair a Theme, as he thought

it, for Calumny and Noise.

He is now fearful, left Great Britain, after concluding a Treaty offensive to the Emperor, should be forced to fue for the Emperor's Friendship: I know not what Knowledge he has of the Interest of Europe; but I am sure all Europe will be obliged to that Ministry which can fettle these Affairs without a War: and if a War is the Confequence of the Treaty of Seville, an Allyance with Spain is not dearly purchased, if it could not be obtained without it; and fome of those very Persons who have opposed, and do now oppose, the Measures of the present Ministry, endeavoured to justify their Conduct, in the latter Part of the Reign of Queen Ann, by preferring the Friendship of Spain to that of the Emperor.

I do not aim at a chronological Exactness in my short List of the Craft sman's Subjects; nor do I propose to mention them all; but the Labour which he has underwent in forcing Parallels, and in pointing out to the People whom he intended by those diffimilar Parallels, must not be passed over without some Notice. After he had endeavoured long in vain to render the Minister odious in the Eyes of his Prince, he toiled with the same Ardour to make the Prince odious in the Eyes of his People; nor could the Majesty, nor the Sex, of the Queen protect her from the impudent Malice of his Pen. I would advise him to go one Step farther; henceforward let him print the real Names of the great Persons, who are the Objects of his Hate; and thereby he shall

gain,

gain, even when his Writings are forgot as they will be foon, the Title of the most disloyal, factious, and undaunted, Scribler; for, by the Notice which superior Writers take of him, his Name shall be delivered down to Posterity with the Brand of Insamy upon it.

Hence I am naturally led to make an Enquiry into the Reasons why some modern Writers assume to themselves the great Names of passed Times; among which are some of the Crast sman's Correspondents, who have communicated their factious Sentiments to the Public under the Names of some of our British

Worthys of former Ages.

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Sir Walter Raleigh was a Lover of his Country, which he ferved, and greatly ferved, in various Capacitys: he was loyal to his Queen, and to his King the Successor of his illustrious Mistress; by which ingrateful, and fome will not scruple to call him scandalous, Prince he fuffered Death, because he opposed fuch Measures as were destructive to his Country. View this great Man at one Time undaunted in the Face of Danger, and bleeding for his Country, at another Time exploring new Worlds, and thereby encreasing the Riches and Glory of his native Land, and laying the Foundation of future Acquisitions of Wealth and Honour; behold him likewise as great in Council as in Arms; and fee him, tho in a less active not in a less glorious Light than before, enriching Mankind with Knowledge by his Pen.

Now let Us turn our Eyes to one that never ferved his Country, that has abused, and shamefully abused, his Queen, that has been unjust to a good Prince thro whose Clemency he continues his Invectives, one who has opposed all the Steps which have been lately taken to settle the Peace of the Kingdom, one that never faced the Enemy in the Field nor on the Deck, one who is incapable of being great in Council, and whose Talents will not permit him to be a great Writer; survey him well; and see him without a Blush, subscribing himself Raleigh.

I here consider the Crast sman and his Correspondents as no more than one, as a Groupe of factious bad Writers. What other Reason can this Scribbler have for taking to himself the Names of such worthy Men but to deceive the credulous into a Belief of his having the same virtuous Principles which such Men as Sir Walter Raleigh had, hoping thereby to gain Favour in their Eyes, and to impose their various Falsehoods on them for so many Truths?

Tho this Writer, with an evil Intent, affumes to himself the Names of such as should be mentioned with Reverence by every Briton, yet another may humbly subscribe what he writes with the Name of an Author of earlyer Days, either because he reveres the Principles which that Author maintains, or because he is pleased in imitating his Manner of Writing in Regard to his Stile, or for both these Reafons: the present Author of the London Jour-

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n lf c c nal has subscribed some of his Discourses with the Name of Socrates, and some with the Name of Francis Osborne; in all which Truth and good Reason are so predominant that those great Men would not be ashamed, if living, to be the Authors of those Treatises.

Tho I have prefumed to subscribe the following Pieces with the great Name of Atticus, that learned and polite Roman, the Reader is not to suppose that I imagine Myself capable of reaching those Excellencys which I admire in him; but while I had him in my Eye I could not descend to what is mean, tho at the same time I was unable to arise to what is great in the real Atticus.



SATURDAY. March 1. 1729.

LETTER I.

An Answer to a Memorial sayed to be prefented to Queen Elizabeth by her Treasurer Burleigh; which Answer shews the Dangers which several Princes and States have incurred by being influenced by the Calumnys of envious and malicious Persons against their Friends.

To the Author of the London Journal.

Sir,

IF the following Remarks will be of any Use to you, or your Readers, they will answer the End of your humble Servant

Atticus.

THIS is the first Time of my interfering in Disputes relating to the Public, and is very likely to be the last; for I hold it as a much more honourable Principle to be silent than to write only to keep the Spirit of Faction alive; which seems to Me to be, at Present, the prevailing Motive in some of our weekly Writers: nor is the Folly of those who take

up their Pens thro the vain Hopes only of obtaining the Reputation of an Author less than the Wickedness of the other: I am afraid some of both Partys are liable to one of these Imputations.

I should have given neither the Reader nor Myself this Trouble, tho I hope my Endeavours may not entirely prove fruitless to the former, did not the false Reasonings of some Persons, and their Effects which I have discovered on weak, but honest, Minds, make it a Duty in me to undeceive these, and explode the Falsitys of the other.

The Craftsman of Saturday last exhibited a Memorial against any particular Favourite to Majesty, sayed to be presented to Queen Elizabeth, and wrote by her Treasurer Burleigh; in which these Words are put into the Mouth of

that great Minister.

I shall venture to appeal to your Majesty's Knowledge of History, whether it affords any Instance of that Nature (meaning the Sovereign being engrossed by any particular Favourite) which has not been, or was not very likely to be, of fatal Consequence to the Prince, or the People, or both. I will not insist on SEJANUS, or any other of the Roman Minions.

As the whole Paper of that Day depends entirely on this Question, I shall undertake to give fuch an Answer as might reasonably come from the Prince who is there applyed to.

" This Question betrays either your own Ig-" norance, or your Prefumption on mine; if " it is from the first, you deserve my Pity and " Contempt, and that I should henceforth a-" bandon you for an infufficient Counsellor; " if from the last, you should incur the Dis-" pleasure of injured, of insulted, Majesty. Think you, I am infensible of what Incon-" veniencys were brought on the States of " Greece, which is a Case parallel with the " Credulity of Princes, from their being pre-" vailed on by the Reports of Malecontents " to distrust their truest Friends? Hence the " many Oftracisms against so many brave Men, " who had long been Fathers to their Coun-" try; some of whom, justly provoked by " the Indignitys wrongfully cast upon them, " turned their Swords with Success against the " Nation whose Glory was once their peculiar " Care. How much happyer had Athens been, " had she confided in Themistocles, and not " fuffered his Enemys, who were equally " Foes to her, to drive him, her Defender and " Support, from her Breast! What was the " Consequence of the Banishment of Camil-" lus ? Rome, ingrateful Rome, in the Hour " of Distress, severely felt the Want of so minent, so faithful, a Son as her exiled " Camillus; fhe recalled him Home, and, " being sufficiently apprifed of his Worth, " made him Dictator; which Honour he " shewed he deserved, by driving away the " " Gauls her fiercest Foe, and by preserving her whofe

from immortal Shame, and perhaps from Sla-" very. The Opportunity of recompencing " this Hero, with the highest Honours, might " mitigate the Sorrow of his Country for " the former Injustice which he had suffered " from het; but what must be the Resections " which Athens made on the Discovery of the "Innocence of her Themistocles, whom she " condemned to dy in Exile? What her Pains " from her Sense of the Sufferings partially in-" flicted on Miltiades, who had fought her " Battels, and with ten or twelve thousand " Men only overcame her most dreadful Foes " the Persians, whose Forces were fix hundred thousand against him? what her Pains, I " fay, to let this brave great Man dy in " Chains, on a false Accusation of Bribery? "To what Curses, equal to their Crimes, could " fhe devote the Heads of those Wretches, " whose Envy and Malice compelled her to " reduce this Stayer of her State fo low, and " herself to the Want of his helping Hand! "Who would dare to cenfure Alexander for " his Confidence in his fincere well approved " Friend Clitus, in whom he might have " reposed the Secrets of his Soul, his Life, with Safety? Was the Prince obvious to "Slander, because he would trust in one who had no Concern but for the Interest of his " Mafter? Yet in a fatal Moment, overcharg= " ed with Wine, and furrounded with Flatterers, he cast away this Jewel, he stabbed " the Heart of him who had been lavish of

" his Blood in his Service: but view the Con-" queror in his cooler Hours, divided betwixt " the two Passions of Rage and Grief, invo-" king Heaven against those Parasites to " whom the manly Virtues of Clitus were " the greatest Faults, and lamenting his de-" parted Friend in Tears and Fafting, refufing " all Consolation, even till he endangered his " Life. That was the Act of precipitate Rash-" ness, and this the Grief of Wisdom. He " was fenfible that his World contained No-" thing more despicable and odious than those " who received Pleasure from the Wound of " Clitus, and that his World was less worth " his Care when Clitus was no more. Had " Nero been entirely influenced by the Coun-" fels of Seneca, he had been a great and " good Prince, and Rome a flourishing City; " but when the Veins of that good Man were " opened, his Country bled. I could produce " many more Instances of States, and Princes, " who have been unfortunate only because "they would not permit themselves to be " engroffed, as you are pleased to express " yourfelf in your Memorial, by fuch as ought to have been particular Favourites; the " Choice of which depends on the Judge-" ment and Virtue of the Prince. Thus I have " answered the Question which you presumed " to ask Me, and expect you should faithful-" ly tell Me, whether you think I cherish a " Favourite to the Disadvantage of my Peo-" ple? and if, you do think fo, make Me " fenfixt

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" fenfible of my Error, by proper Means, and "I will thank you in a Manner not unwor-" thy the Friend of my Kingdoms and Me; "but if your Memorial proves to be only "false Infinuations, you must not wonder if "you are stripped of the Honours which you already possess, and incur the Disgrace "which an envious and turbulent Spirit de-"ferves."

I beg leave to add the following Remarks to what, I think, with Justice might have came from the Mouth of so insulted a Monarch, as any one must be, to whom such a Memorial could be presented.

If Tiberius was governed by a Sejanus, and Henry the eighth by a Wolfey, must not a wise and just Prince regard the Counsel of wiser and honester Ministers than those were? Should the Clamours of a discontented Party force the Prince to sacrifice to their Malevolence one of whose Abilitys and Fidelity he has convincing Proofs? How more glorious had the End of a late Reign been, had the Sovereign listened less to the Remonstrances against as great a General as has been since the first Cæsar, and as just a Man as the most worthy would desire for a Friend?

I cannot conclude without addressing my self to the Editor of the Memorial. What, Sir, induced you to publish that Piece at this Time? If you aim at any particular Person, from whom you think your Country is in

C 2 Danger

Danger, name him in the proper Place; where, if you have Evidences to countenance them, your Accusations may be impartially heared, and examined? If the Memorial is Nothing more than an Infinuation, you must know, at the same Time you are venting the Rancour of your Heart, the Part is both little and dishonourable, to prejudice the Populace, few of whom are Judges of the Springs of public Actions, against a Minister who may in the Event shew himself to have been thro his whole Course their firmest Friend. You are under a Mistake when you complain that the Public is aggrieved by the long Continuance of a Favourite; the Uneafyness of the People, when they are uneafy, arises from Misreprefentations of Things, and the false Alarm of Danger. Let me advise you, nay let me humbly intreat you, if you would be thought a fruitful Author, no more to use the Names of Sejanus and Wolsey; if you torture them much longer, future Writers, if you are re-membered by them, will avoid them because they have been made fo trite by your Pen; and know likewise the Merit of calling Names confifts in the Justness of the Application.

SATURDAY, March 8. 1729.

LETTER II.

The Danger of lessening a Sovereign in the Eyes of his People.

To the Author of the London Journal.

SIR.

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A T the same Time I am addressing myfelf to you to communicate my Thoughts
to the Public, I must apply to Mr. D'Anvers,
whose Correspondent Raleigh tells us, at the
End of his Observations on the Reign of King
James the first, he is fensible that he shall be
charged, by the Writers of the opposite Side,
with drawing invidious Parallels; and he
adds, that he cannot deny that there are several Circumstances, which may be applied
to the present Times.

I must assure that Patriot that he is not accused of drawing invidious Parallels, but is justly blamed for his malicious and weak Endeavours. If several Circumstances may be applyed, in his Opinion, to the present Times, I hope he does not intend an Application where he says, the King was despised, trissed with, ridiculed, and insulted; if he answers no, I should be glad to be informed which are the Passages which the Populace are

to interpret according to his Meaning; as he points out none, they are left to themselves to fix on what Part they please to wrest to their own Sense. Let me persuade you, Mr. D'ANVERS, of the ill Consequence of these Infinuations, if the Public should regard them as you would have them regarded. Think you three Kingdoms can be pleased under the Reign of a Prince who will fuffer himself, to his own Knowledge, to be despised, trifled with, ridiculed, and infulted? I am fearful to proceed in my Interrogations any farther on this Head; and I doubt not but you will anfwer, that I ask a Question without any Foundation; but the Drift of many of your Papers will render that Answer as vain, as fuch a Design is base and destructive to public Peace. Could you induce the People to entertain such a Thought of their Sovereign, what Profpect could you have of ever obtaining the Smiles of him whose Majesty you had trampled on before? If your Hatred to his Minister is invincible, let not that transport you beyond the Bounds of Loyalty. If you think he has inadvertently taken any wrong Step in his Administration, fink your private Aversion, for the public Safety, and apprise him of it in a Manner beseeming the Friend of his Country. If you fet him right, the Obligation will be universal; and if you judge wrong, it will only seem a commendable Mistake. By this Method, Sir, you might approve yourself a sincere Friend to the Nation,

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tion, and a generous Enemy to him; but while you travel in that beaten Road of pillaging History for forced Similitudes, you may pretend Patriotism, but that Pretence will soon be made ineffectual by the Blaze of your Ambition. How many Instances may be produced from antient Writers, nor are we barren of them at Home, of brave Spirits who have stifled their Resentments, when public Danger has called for mutual Aid? Such was HUMFREY the Good, Duke of Gloucester; the Felicity of the People was all he cherished in his Breast; nor could the Infults, nor repeated Injurys, which he fuffered from the Envy and Hate of his Enemys, ever bar his Pursuit of it. Illustrious Example of wise Forbearance from Revenge, when the national Interest demanded him all!

If you continue, Mr. D'ANVERS, to retail the English History in your weekly Labours, let us have more than mere Facts, with particular Passages printed in Italics, and Capitals, or you will be entitled to no more Applause than if you should publish a Chapter from the Bible, or any other Book, which is read by most Degrees of People. If you exhibit real Facts, and illustrate them with curious, and new, Observations, you may, in Process of Time, gain the Reputation of a Commentator on the English History.

If, Sir, you think proper to state the good Consequences of the Methods which you now take in Opposition to the bad; and if I find,

by a strict and impartial Examination of them, the good exceeding the bad, I will, with the utmost Cheerfulness, employ the poor Talents with which I am gisted vigorously in your Cause.

Atticus:

March 8. 1729.

LETTER III.

Tyrtæus, on martial Virtue, translated, and addressed to the Duke of Marlborough.

To the Author of the London Journal.

THE following Poem is a Translation from the Greek of Tyrtæus, of whom Plutarch, in his Life of Cleomenes, tells us that Leonidas fayed, he was an excellent Poet to inspire the Youth to Battel; for being fired by the martial Fury which is in his Poems, they would fearless venture on any Danger. This Piece is the best of his Remains, and perhaps may not entirely fail to please in an English Translation.

Atticus.

To Thee, departed Chief, this Debt I pay, The Song of Justice, and no venal Lay. Thy martial Virtues, each advent'rous Deed, A Tyrant humbled, and a Kingdom free'd, Thy Thy Name above preceding Heros raife, Excite our Wonder, and demand our Praise. For Thee, immortal Shade, the Lyre is strung To Strains which erst the brave Tyrtaus sung, Whose Versethe Youth of Lacedamon sir'd, And to the Fight the Blood of Age inspir'd, O! had he liv'd thy mighty Acts to tell, How had the Battel rag'd, the valiant fell! Thee had we seen in thy triumphant Car, And round Thee all the Virtues of the War: But Nature gave him to a grateful Age, That saw the Beautys of the Warrior's Page. Thus the bless'd Bard begun the martial Strain, And to his Country sung, nor sung in vain.

"No Place he merits in recording Song,
"Whose only Boast is that he's swift or strong,

" Not tho in Might he with the Cyclops vys,

" And from the Goal swift as the Wind heflys;

" Nor he whom Nature, with indulgent Care,

" Has form'd more graceful than Tithonus fair,

" Not the he hoards of Cinyras the Store,

" And to him Midas, wealthy Prince, is poor;

"Nor o'er Dominions large who greater "reigns

"Than Pelops, Monarch of the Phrygian "Plains;

" Nor he who sweeter than Adrastus spoke,

" Who forc'd Attention when he Silence broke:

" All human Glory let him proudly gain,

" To Me all Glory but of War is vain.

"He is not form'd for Arms, the Soldier's Pride,

"Who shudders when he views the sanguine "Tide;

"Tis

"Tis brave where Slaughter rages most to " fland,

" And with the Foreman grappel Hand to Hand:

"This Virtue is, and this the foremost Praise,

- " And this to Fame the glowing Youth shall " raife.
 - " The Voice of Honour is a gen'ral Call,

" The Scene of Battel open lys to all;

" The City there the Townsman may defend,

- " And prove, in Danger, most her faithful " Friend.
- " May none inlift, and then ignobly fly,

" But boldly face the War, nor fear to dy.

- " The Man who daunt less can resign his Breath,
- " And animate his Friend to rush on Death,
- " Is form'd for Arms; him Glory calls afar

" To shine illustrious in the Garb of War:

" He the dread Phalanx shall compel to Flight,

- "And drive impetuous, like the Waves, the " Fight.
- " See the brave Man in the first Ranks expire,
- " Boast of his Country, and his aged Sire!
- " His bleeding Breaft declares he nobly fell.
- " And the pierc'd Shield and wounded Corflet " tell.

" Their Hero dead the hoary Sires deplore,

- " And the Youth grieve who know'd no Grief " before;
- " From all her Eyes the City mourns the flain,
- " And follows to the Grave a difinal Train:
- " All Men his Tomb, all Men his Sons, adore,
- " And his Son's Sons, till they shall be no more.

- " His fair Renown shall never fade away,
- " Nor shall the Mention of his Name decay,
- " Who glorious falls beneath the Conqu'ror's "Hand,
- " For his dear Children, and his native Land;
- " Tho to the Dust his mortal Part we give,
- "His Fame, in Triumph o'er the Grave, shall "live.
 - " If with Success he wards the fatal Blow,
- " And Home returns safe from the vanquish'd "Foe,
- " The young and old their grateful Homage
- " To him, the Victor of the well-fought Day;
- " Uninterrupted Joys his Hours attend,
- " And in abundance wait him to his End;
- " His Glory all confult, and all his Peace;
- " And lo! his Honours with his Days increase;
- "Him, proud to rev'rence, shall the noblest grace,
- " And to their Soldier rife in ev'ry Place;
- " Each Sex, and ev'ry Age, of all Degrees,
- " Fear to offend him, and rejoice to please.
 " Who to this Height of Virtue hopes to rise,
- " Must Toil, must Danger, and must Death, " despise;
- " Undaunted he must take the martial Field,
- " In Resolution strong, untaught to yield.

SATURDAY. March 22. 1729.

LETTER IV.

A Letter as from a Foreigner residing in London to his Friend at Home, directing him how to judge of the State of public Affairs in England.

To the Author of the London Journal.

SIR,

from an Account which a foreign Gentleman, now residing in London, lately sent to his Friend at Home, of the present State of Affairs in England: from which we may see how forward some of our dear Countrymen are to lay us open to the Censure of our Neighbours, and to render us, if possibly their Efforts could bring us so low, as despicable abroad as they are at Home. After several Observations on various Parts of the Kingdom, our judicious Traveller proceeds.

"Thus I have layed before you the Re-"marks which I have made, from a Tour of

" feven Years, on the Climate, Soil, Produce, " Edifices, and the Characteristic in General of

"the People, of this Island. I shall now en-

"deavour to satisfy you in what you seem most inquisitive after, the Posture of public "Affairs

" Affairs here: the chief Methods by which " a Stranger can judge of it are these. First, " by a constant Application to the dayly and " weekly Journals, and fuch occasional Trea-" tifes as are wrote on Subjects relating to the " Public; the fecond is, by carefully attend-" ing to the Conversations of different Persons " on those Heads; and the third, by fre-" quenting the House of Commons as often as " he can. When I begun to apply myself to " the public Prints I was furprifed by finding what was one Day positively afferted in one " Paper contradicted the next Day, with the " same Assurance, in another. Hence I con-" cluded my Search must inevitably prove in " vain, while one Day continued to give the Ly " to the former. I laboured under the same " Difficultys in my private Conversations; what " one Man affirmed to Me in the Morning was pronounced absolutely false by another be-" fore Night. You are fensible I could not " immediately determine which Faction most to " regard; but discovering in the Writers of one " Side the Reasoning of wise Men, and the " Moderation of honest Dispositions, I was in-" clined to them by those undoubted Marks of Truth; nor have I yet any Reason to " recede from the Opinion which I first con-" ceived of them. The Fury which seems " to guide the Pens of those of the other Party " shews the Rage of disappointed Pride, and "the impatient Heart of Revenge. The same "Tokens which confirmed my Sentiments of

" the Authors influenced Me in personal Dif-" putes. I at last dived to the Bottom of " these Factions: I perceived the chief Mini-" fter envyed, hated, and calumniated, by " the principal Person of the factious Party, " and by his Creatures, only because he is chief " Minister, and likely to continue so from the " Satisfaction which he gives his Mafter, by " the faithful Discharge of his Trust. The " means which they take to render this great " Man odious to the People are fuch as a " brave Spirit, with a just Mind, cannot con-" descend to. Their Parallels are always from " Sejanus or Cardinal Wolsey; the Injustice " of which will appear to you as foon as I af-" fure you this injured Minister is not only " beloved by most of the Nobility, but is " fedulous in the Interest of both Prince and " People. Sejanus, you well know, op-" pressed the Subjects, impoverished many of " the Nobility, deceived his Prince; and was " universally hated from the first to the lowest " Subject of Cafar. Wolfey, notwithstand-" ing the Advocate which he had in a late " Divine, was Nothing more than an infolent " vicious Priest, and a rapacious Minister. " Nay, these invidious Men spare not the sa-" cred Head of Majesty, if I may be allowed " to be my own Interpreter of their Infinua-"tions. While the Spaniard was labouring " to tear from him the Fruits of passed Con-" quests, which have been defended with "Success, these Malecontents were increasing

" his Troubles at Home. They load his Mi-" nister with Accusations, which, if just in " themselves, are not just when levelled at " him. They infligate the Merchants against " him, because they have suffered from the " Breach of Faith in other Nations; they con-" fider not that the Hostilitys committed on " them are fo many Aggravations of the Of-" fences of their Enemys against the Day in " which Vengeance will be required of them. " You, Sir, will not blame the Conduct of Him who chooses rather to make an honourable " Peace than involve a Nation in an expensive and uncertain War. The Sword will be foon enough drawed when the Hopes of a " Peace are vanished. I must likewise inform " you of the loud Chamours which are raised about the national Debt, and of the Schemes which are exhibited of the Discharge and " Additions; the Partiality of which is apparent from the Declaration of the Creditors; each of which defires to be the last that is payed. " By this Time I believe you expect to know in what I have edifyed from my attending " the House of Commons. Here I must baulk " your Expectations, by deferring a Relation of my Observations on that august Affem-" bly of Legislators of Great Britain; may " those ever remain free from Censure, whose " folemn Deliberations are on the Fate of " Kingdoms. From what I have fayed you " will conclude the King of Great Britain bleffed in a Minister, tho unhappy in some " few Sons of Faction; the Chief of which is, says Report, a Person whose setting out was like the morning Sun that promises a glorious Day, but is clouded before his Noon. He will often, as I am told, in the Pangs which Disappointments give, amuse those who are about him with these sudden Exclamations,

O! Liberty! O! Virtue! O! my Country!

" Perhaps, Sir, a short Account of the present " State of Learning in these Parts may not be " ingrateful to you. The Tafte for polite " Letters prevails most among the midling " Rank of People, among fuch as are more " inclined, than able, to be liberal to Men of " Genius; some few indeed of the Nobility, " and other Persons of Distinction, are un-" fashionable enough to encourage the useful " Parts of Learning; but these are so few " that every Writer, who has some Merit to " recommend him, cannot find a Patron. A-" mong the few the chief Minister is one of " the first; who never lets true Worth apply to him unrewarded. A Subscription is now " going forward for a Farce; to which both "Sexes, who are Observers of Fashions, are " contending who shall subscribe first and The Author is reputed a Man of " Genius, and one who can fee the blind Side " of his Countrymen. In my next I may " probably fend you the List of his Subscribers, with the particular Contribution of

" each;

" each; which may be some Help towards " your forming a Judgement of the English

"Nation. When any Thing more occurs,

" worthy your Notice, you shall certainly hear from your sincere humble Servant.

I appeal to my Readers, whether the Inferences, which are here made, are not becoming a candid and reasonable Person to make? If they appear to be fo, let us be mutual in our Intreatys to those who are dayly bringing Shame on their Country. Desift, Gentlemen, from giving your Enemys Occasion to fay, Britain is at War with herfelf. Let it not be layed in Spain, nor published in the Streets of Madrid.

Atticus.

SATURDAY, March 29. 1729.

LETTER V.

An Examination into the Controversy bes twixt the Poets and Mr. Pope.

To the Author of the London Journal.

SIR,

HE Town has often been troubled with the Contentions of the Poets of the prefent Age: I shall not here pretend to fay whether the Faction of Mr. Pore, or that against

against him, prevails most in the good Opinion of their Readers. My Intent in this is to make an Enquiry into the Honour with which both Partys have proceeded, without Partiality to either, or without entering into their Merits as Writers. Mr. Theobald, some few Years fince, published a Work entitled SHAKESPEARE restored; in which he attacked Mr. Pope, regarding him only as the Editor of that Author, without any Reflections on either his Person, his Morals, or Family. This feems to me to be the principal Canse of Mr. Pope's writing the Dunciad; of which Poem Mr. Theobald is the Hero; not only the Writings of which Gentleman, but the Circumstances, are the Subjects of Part of that Satire.

The same Injustice appears in the Characters of other Authors, who are introduced in the same Libel. This occasioned various Pieces from different Hands on both Sides, wrote with unequal Success; some related only to the Writings of the Adversary, and many unjustly and impertinently were directed at the Person and Morals of Mr. Pope. Each Party had their Fayourers; and a long Cessation of

Satire and Slander has hitherto been.

Mr. Pope, apprifed of some Preparations which have been making against him, has been industrious in collecting such Particulars of the Lives of most Persons, who are mentioned in the Dunciad, as can possibly render them little in the Eyes of those who look farther than the real Merit of a Man to judge of him;

for the Collectors of Calumny and Scandal; Wretches who, rather than be thought unworthy their Employment, supplyed their Master with Materials from Invention where they failed in Facts. Let them proceed, and may their Acquisitions be the Rewards of their Hire!

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Jamque Opus exegit, and the Labour is delivered into the Hands of most Persons of Distinction in the Kingdom, that they may judge of those Characters which the impartial Author has thought fit to draw. I hope fuch as are distinguished, by the Editor, with a Present of this Work will know how to judge of the Merits and Abilitys of a Writer who is forced at last to have Recourse to Scandal. What could he propose, by these Methods, but to prejudice those, who are most capable of being Friends to Worth, against the Men whom he has represented in the worst Light which he was able to draw them in, and foreign to their Characters as Writers. Gentleman must no longer complain, if, after this, he is confidered not only as a bad Wri-When the Morals of a Person are incorporated in his Writings they become the Subject of Criticism with them.

Mr. Pope, in his Notes to the first Book of the Iliad, has rightly observed from Plutarch, that Homer "constantly affords us a fine "Lesson of Morality in his Reprehensions "and Praises, by referring them not to the

E 2 "Goods

"Goods of Fortune or the Body, but those of the Mind, which are in our Power, and for which we are blameable or Praise-worthy. "Thus Agamemnon is reproached for Impudence and Fear, Ajax for vain bragging,
Idomeneus for the Love of Contention, and
Ulysses does not reprove even Thersites
but as a Babbler, tho he had so many personal Deformitys to object to him." This Rule
I shall observe in some future Remarks on the Writings and Conduct of a certain Person, who,
I doubt not, will soon be sensible of his Errors, if Ignorance has not took her Residence in his Soul.

The Fable of the Cat and the Monkey was never better illustrated than in the Author of the Dunciad and his Friend; but I hope the Gentleman who has suffered himself to be made the Cat's Claw, by publishing the Scandal which Mr. Pope has heaped together, does not think he will ever remain uncalled upon to answer his Rashness. If Mr. Pope gave the Dirt into his Hand, the Choice was in him whether he would throw it or no; without an Acknowledgement therefore of his Indiscretion, the most injured may one Day demand Reparation of him in a Manner not entirely agreeable to him.

Atticus.

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SATURDAY, April 19. 1729.

LETTER VI.

An Essay on the votive Shield of CAMILLUS.

To the Author of the London Journal.

S I.R, and setting to damage and

Hope the following Essay will prove an agreeable Amusement to all Lovers of Learning, since it not only illustrates a remarkable and excellent Monument of Antiquity, but contains an Account of one of the most memorable Transactions in History: I mean the votive Shield which is lest among the many valuable Curiositys of the late Dr. Woodward.

I shall endeavour to give a short History of that Shield, and chiefly from a Treatise wrote entirely on that Subject by Mr. Dodwell. The Book was printed at Oxford in the Year 1713, after the Death of the Author, and published by the learned Antiquary Mr. Hearne, under the Title of Henrici Dodwelli de Parma eque-stri Woodwardiana Dissertatio. The Work is full of antient Learning, and in it many Passages of several of the Classics are judiciously illustrated. Since it is in the Hands of but sew Persons, and wrote in a Language which every one is not Master of, this Essay may not be ingrateful to the Reader.

The Editor, the better to prepare the Reader for Mr. Dodwell's Differtation, begins with a Note from his own Edition of Livy. tells us, while he was publishing that Author, Dr. Woodward gave the Public a Plate of an antient votive Shield, which helps to illustrate that Historian, and which represents to us Rome taken and burned by the Gauls, under the Command of Brennus, the weighing the Gold for the Redemption of the Capitol, the Approach of Camillus, the Fear and Flight of the Gauls, and public and various Edifices. There are expressed the Horse and Foot in their proper Habiliments of War, Helmets, Coats of Mail, Shields, Swords, Spears, Streamers, Boots, and Horse-trappings. No one, he fays, but from a Spirit of Ill-will and Contradiction, will deny this to be a Monument of Antiquity, tho the exact Time of the Work cannot be truly fixed. In the Shield are Horses without Bridles; and Livy tells us the Roman Horse often went to Battel without. Mr. Hearne endeavours likewise to obviate an Objection, which has been made by fome of the Learned, to the Antiquity of this Shield, from the Form of the Streamers, which are not unlike a Flame burning aflant, and were therefore called Flammula and Flammeola. The Invention of these Streamers, they fay, is not old enough to favour the Antiquity of the Shield; but our Editor makes the Description of the Streamers agree with Vegetius and other Authors,

and fays, among the Bodleian Archives is a Coin of Antoninus Pius with a fimilar Representation. In short he proves those Streamers to have been used at the Time when Brennus took and burned Rome. Thus far Mr. Hearne.

Mr. Dodwell, in the Beginning of his Work, informs us that Dr. Woodward found this Shield in a Blacksmith's Shop, and at the same Time reasonably accounts for the Possiblity of an antique Shield being there. After mentioning the Customs of devoting Shields as Monuments of public Actions, he fays, King Henry the eighth of England had made a large Collection of Shields; among which might be this; and the Parliament afterwards disposing of the royal Furniture, and what they found about the Palace, or any where belonging to the King, in an arbitrary Manner, may have been the Occasion of it falling into private Hands. This Reasoning of our Author, the Foundation for which he acknowledges to have had from Mr. Hearne, carrys a great Air of Probability with it; for we very well know that fome, who were in the Management of Affairs in the troublesome Times of King Charles the first, had not so great a Knowledge of Antiquity, or fuch a Thirst for Learning, but that this Orb of Iron might pass with them, in Worth, for no more than the Weight. us proceed to our Proofs of the Antiquity of it; which is confirmed, fays our Author, by the military Arms, which represent the Discipline

State. The Workmanship is so masterly, that it will almost inspire the incurious with Admiration. This Work cannot be older than the Times of Augustus, nor much later, as we may gather from the Streamers in it. We see no Crosses which Christian Princes marched with on their Streamers, nor any such as those which Heathen Princes, who persecuted the Christians, used. What Mr. Dodwell has hitherto advanced relates more to the Antiquity of the Story than the Work itself; but what follows effects the Shield.

The Art of Working on Metal was not brought to the Perfection which appears in this Shield till the Reign of Nero; when, as we learn from Pliny, in his natural History, Zenodorus arose, who raised a Statue of Mercury, the Labour of ten Years: the Work of whose Hands was the famous Colossus, the Image of Nero, after whose Death it was dedicated to the Sun. The Beginning of the Reign of Nero was about fifty four Years after Christ. and the Time when Pliny wrote about feventy feven Years; in which short Space this Art declined; fays Pliny, and the greater the Excellence of Zenodorus was, so much the more visible is the Decay of the Art. In that Space of Time possibly the Artificer of this Shield lived. I cannot here avoid taking Notice of a Reading in Pliny, which Mr. Dodwell has judiciously restored. The Passage is this: Quantoque major in Zenodoro Pra-Stantia

Stantia fuit, tanto magis deprehenditur Artis Obliteratio. The common Reading is, Quantoque major in Zenodoro Prastantia fuit, tanto magis deprehendi Æris Obliteratio potest. Which is, And the greater the Excellence of Zenodorus was, so much the more visible is the Decay of the Brass. Pliny could not intend to signify the Induration of the Metal, which could not appear in so sew Years.

Our Author hence proceeds to shew the Opinion which the Antients, Aristotle, Paufanias, and Pliny, had of Iron, and how durable a Metal it is, and the Probability of the Shield being continued thro fo many Ages unhurt: he afterwards points out the Judgement of the Artificer in every particular Part of the Work. Camillus, who is the first on his Horse next the Scales, is there represented as an old Man, with a Beard, and with the proper Enfigns of his Dictatorship; which coincides with Hiftory; for we find, in the fifth Book of Livy, that Camillus was recalled from his Exile, and again made Dictator not long before he drived the Gauls from the City. Here Camillus has a Spear only, in which Manner, without any other Arms, the Dictators of Rome rode on fuch Occasions; nor was it fit he should be encumbered with other Arms, whose chief Busyness was to give Command. Camillus is there expressed in all the Majesty becoming a Dictator; before whom the proper Officer is on Foot, as delivering the Message

of his Mafter to Brennus, who stands bareheaded; his Sword lys in one Scale, to ballance which a Man fitting is about to throw more Gold into the other. Livy tells us, the Person who was bartering with Brennus was a Tribune of the People. At the Approach of Camillus, and his Party, a Stop feems to be put to the weighing the Gold; which is agreeable to what the Historian, in his fifth Book, relates of this Transaction. He tells us, the Dictator came before the Gold was quite weighed, and commanded the Gauls to retreat. The Posture of Brennus, holding the Scales with one Hand, and having just throwed his Sword in with his other, as if he would fay make more Weight, fuits the bold and daring Character which Historians give of that General; and the Grandeur and Gravity in the Countenance of Camillus, who feems as giving Orders, become his Age, Wisdom, and Condition. Here is the breathing Iron, tho not the Pirantia mollius Era!

Mr. Dodwell, in one Place, asks why the Men should be represented as about to engage, and some in the very Act of Hostility, without either Belts or Scabbards. He might have found a Reason, for the first not appearing, from his own Work; for he afterwards proves the Place in which the Sword was fixed not to have been seen, being under the Coat of Mail; besides many Circumstances might have contributed to those being layed aside. The Pursuers might have leaved them behind, fearing they

they would encumber them in their Pursuit; and the Party of Brennus were not apprehensive of the Approach of Camillus; who, with his Followers, came armed with the true Roman Spirit, incensed at the Meanness of those who would have bartered for the Capitol; they knew naked Arms alone were sufficient for Men resolved on either Death or Victory.

Our Author, after some Doubt what the two Persons should be, who ride behind Camillus, at some Distance from each other, with Countenances which demand Respect, and whose Dreffes seem to be of a sacred Order, judges them to be Heralds. I know not why he should conclude them rather Heralds than Priests; their Faces are more covered than those of the rest; and he himself is inclined to think they have Something like the holy Fillet about their Foreheads; and we have Instances, in antient Writers, of Priefts who have deferved well as Soldiers, and who have fell in Battel. The Arms of one of them, for those of the other 'are out of Sight, are naked to above the Elbow, like the other Persons on the Shield, according to the Custom of the antient Romans, who were always bare to above the Elbow when in Arms; for which Reason we find Suetonius reproaching Caius Caligula because he went in Public armed, and at the fame time with Sleeves down to his Hands. Our Author likewise proves the same Coats of Mail to have been worn by the Gauls, as well as the Romans, as they appear on the F 2 Shield;

Shield; which Coats never came below the Elbows, nor the Knees. He descends to the Boots, and demonstrates them to be the same which Tacitus tells us Caligula, the Son of Germanicus, wore, when a Child, in Complaisance to the Soldiers; they covered Part of the Shin, reaching neither so high as the Knee, nor so low as the Toes. Thus has the learned Antiquary, Mr. Dodwell, proved all the Habiliments of War to accord exactly with the Custom of the Antients. Hence we may conclude, tho the exact Age of the Artificer may yet be disputed, his Knowledge was not unequal to the Work which he undertook.

The Buildings which are on the Shield have by some been judged to be the Capitol; but they are, in the Opinion of Mr. Dodwell, the Theatres and Circus, which are partly burned down. Some Remains of the Fire yet appear; some Signs of it are visible behind the Theatres and the Grove. Lipsus tells us the Houses of some great Men, and some public Edifices, were preserved. The Capitol like-

wife escaped the Flames.

Mr. Dodwell had begun a Chapter, in which he purposed to shew the Distance of the Capitol from the Tiber; but a Fever siezed him, and Death prevented the Execution of his Design; as we are told by his Friend, to whom, in his Illness, he sent what he had wrote on this Subject, desiring him to convey the Papers to Dr. Woodward. To what Mr. Dodwell has advanced I must add one strong Argument

gument of the Antiquity of this Monument; which is, the Gold that was on it some Years since, and which was scowered off by the Officiousness of a Servant in the Absence of her Master; of this I have been informed by Dr. Woodward himself. The Art of making Iron receive Gold, as this was layed on, has been

long fince loft.

I doubt not but all unprejudiced Persons, and especially they who have seen the Shield, are convinced of the Antiquity from Arguments deduced from the Work. I must confess I never beheld it without being charmed, by taking into my Mind, at one View, the History of so glorious an Action. The heroic Virtues are ftrongly expressed in the generous Resentment of Camillus, who could not bear the Pufillanimity of those of his Countrymen, who were basely treating with Brennus with Gold for the Capital; a Cause that ought to be determined only by the Sword. This illustrious Instance of the Magnanimity of Camillus should ever be remembered by all Nations. The wife and brave Resolution of one Man. boldly executed, may preserve the Reputation of a Country just finking by the ill Conduct of weak and degenerate Souls: and the Banishment of Camillus ought to be a Lesson of Caution to us in our Proceedings against any great Man; behold Rome suppliant to the Person whom she but just before had ignobly cast from her,

I have ventured to call this Monument the votive Shield of CAMILLUS, as it has never yet, to our Knowledge, been under any particular Denomination but that of a votive Shield. I think Nothing can be more properly added than the Name of the Hero who bears the first Character in the Action, of which the Work is in Commemoration.

Atticus.

SATURDAY. May 3. 1729.

LETTER VII.

Some Observations on the King's Speech, with the Fable of Erichonius translated from Lord Bacon's Book of the Wisdom of the Antients.

To the Author of the London Journal.

SIR,

A FTER the great Concern which his Majesty expressed, in his most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, on Tuesday the twenty first Day of January last, for the uncertain State of Assairs, and for the Burdens which his Subjects bear, no one should be suspected capable of disputing his paternal Care for his Kingdoms. When the Sovereign has assured us from the Throne that a just Regard for the Ease and Interest of his

his People alone prevailed upon him, rather to suffer some temporary Inconveniencies, with the daily Prospect of obtaining a safe and honourable Peace, than too precipitately to kindle a War in Europe, and to plunge the Nation into still greater and unknown Expences, what loyal Breaft entertains a Thought that derogates from the Honour of the Prince, and the tender Affection of the Parent? He, while the Sword of Justice is in his own Hand, wifely chooses to fee Peace fmiling at Home without oppreffing his Neighbours, without exacting the Atonement of Blood for their passed Offences. He wishes that the Bleffings of Peace may be diffused throughout Europe, and his Kingdoms again enjoy the happy Effects of a settled Tranquility; or, if this cannot be had, that the Allies may unite with Vigour and Resolution, and exert themselves in procuring that Justice, and Satisfaction, which has been so long delayed. Here is the Resolution of Virtue and Wisdom to obtain a Peace if possible, and if confiftent with our Privileges and Honour, or to draw the Sword if that cannot be obtained on those Terms.

Notwithstanding these Assurances of our Sovereign, so turbulent are the Spirits of some Persons, as appear from their repeated Clamours, that the Prince has reason to doubt their Allegiance: nor can this Charge seem too heavy, when we consider what Pains they take to shew what a Dissidence they have in his Promise.

If, Gentlemen, ye believe him when he affures ye he has the Interest of ye all at Heart, why do ye create Animositys in his Subjects? If ye think him fincere in his Endeavours to establish your Peace, why do ye spirit his Subjects against him, before ye know the true Causes of the Delay? Is it confiftent with your Loyalty to strive to corrupt a worthy People with unjust Notions of their Ruler? Consider that your foolish, your gross, Invectives are leveled at the Head of Majesty; who has given his facred Word that ye shall be righted, and who is incapable of retracting. When the Tranquility of the Land is settled, ewhat Blesfings will be his Due who preserved Us from the Dangers of a War, the Period of which could not be fixed, nor the Expences limited, from a War which a Party of Malecontents would precipitately have involved Us in at the Hazard of immense Treasure, and many Lives! and if at last we are forced to arm, Prudence and Justice will declare for him who retarded the Day of Battel, while the Possibility of a Peace was in View. Let the Passions of your Hearts subside, reslect in your cooler Hours, cease to bring Shame on yourselves, and shun the just Resentment of an injured and infulted Monarch. Tho ye lift up your Voices with the Cry of Liberty, Malice and Ambition are visibly the Source of your Clamours, and Discontent.

Lord Bacon, in the twentyeth Chapter of his excellent Book of the Wisdom of the Antients,

tients, supposes an Imposture to be veiled in the Character and Description of Ericthonius, the Son of Vulcan. The deformed God had long attempted, by frequent Addresses, to violate the Chastity of Minerva; and, finding all Attempts in vain, in the Raging of his Blood, he endeavoured to force her to his Embraces. The Goddess repelled Force by Force, and from what fell on the Ground from Vulcan, in this imperfect Enjoyment, Ifprung Eriethonius. The upper Parts of his Body were lovely and graceful, those from his Thighs downwards had the Resemblance of Serpents. As he was ashamed of his Deformity, he used all the Means he could to conceal it. what our learned and noble Author has wrote on this Head, I will beg Leave to add the following Explication of the Allegory. In the Character of Vulcan is couched that of a Person of unruly Passions, such as Pride and Revenge, who would give vent to them under the Shew of Wisdom; but as Minerva fled from Vulcan, so Wisdom refuses him her Aid; and if he has at last the Art to gloss the Vices of his Mind with an outward Appearance of Virtue, the Contention is not unlike that betwixt Vulcan and Minerva; he compels Wisdom, in some Degree, to his Assistance: but what is the Offspring of such a Parent? Ericthonius, all beautyful above, and a Monster below. When we read the Writings of a certain Author, we fee the Words Liberty, Virtue, my Country! and all the specious

Terms of Patriotism; but at the Bottom we discover Malice, Ambition, and all the other tyrant Passions of the Soul. I am certain the Gentleman on whom I would fix this Character is conscious within himself of the Just-ness of it, however he may approve of the Application by

Your humble Servant,

Atticus.

SATURDAY, June 28. 1729.

LETTER VIII.

A Poem to the Earl of Pembroke, occasioned by the Death of Dr. Samuel Clarke.

To the Author of the London Journal.

SIR,

it a Virtue, that has often induced Me to extol real Worth in the Living, forces Me to pay this Tribute to the illustrious Dead; and I doubt not but every honest Mind will commend my Zeal for those great Names with which I have adorned my Poem; to whose Characters no one pays a juster Veneration than Tour humble Servant

Atticus.

Point out the Man who, from the Bloom of Youth,

Has fear'd to wander from the Paths of Truth,
Who, with a Genius to his Labours kind,
Traces the Workings of th' eternal Mind,
Who, thro a NASSAU'S and a STEWART'S
Reign,

Pass'd the high Scenes of Life without a Stain, Whom, for his Wisdom and his Worth renown'd,

The Sun beholds with Years and Honours crown'd:

To him the Bard directs his plaintive Lays, Inspir'd by Sorrow with the Song of Praise. PEMBROKE, attend; thy Virtues be my

Guide,

Great Man, whose Friendship is my foremost Pride.

To Thee whom all the learned Arts adorn,
To Fame, thro Virtue, more than Titles, born,
This Verse I send; indulge the pious Strain,
Nor think the Off'rings of the Muses vain;
With just Distinction they the Dead survey,
And cast a Luster round the great Man's Clay;
E'en now, all grateful for his sacred Page,
They wait obsequious on the dying Sage,
Watch with melodious Grief his latest Breath,
Then hail him to the Life he gains by Death.
Give me the Worth you priz'd on Earth to tell,
And deign, my Lord, to join the last Farewell.

When Men illustrious to the Grave descend, Of whom the World may say we mourn our

Friend,

Whose Search unweary'd, and whose fruitful Care,

The Suns can witness, and the Nights declare, Who with a chearful Heart could Toils despise, To mend our Morals, and improve thewise, When Men like CLARKE rever'd forsake the Day,

The Muse laments, and in no vulgar Way.
Your Fate, ye vain, your Fate, Ambition,
know:

Behold the wise, the learned, Head lys low: Hence be your Joy, hence be your boasted Pride,

To live like him, without a Fear who dy'd, The just Asserter of th' almighty Cause, Who trac'd thro Nature God's unerring Laws. How bless'd the Doctrine that the Sage has taught,

That passive Matter can produce no Thought!
Thence may the reas'ning Mind disclose a Ray,
How fair the Prospect! of eternal Day.

Hence let my ravish'd Soul those Realms explore,

Where Pains torment, and Doubts perplex, no more:

Let Fancy paint the ever-pleafing Scene,
For fading Verdure an immortal Green;
Where all Things lovely to the Sight arife,
Beneath the boundless and unclouded Skys.
From Bliss to Bliss enamour'd now we rove,
Soft thro th' enamel'd Mead, or vocal Grove.
There Sweets are wasted from the distant Coasts,
Sweets far beyond what either India boasts;
There

There blooms perpetual the celeftial Flow'r, More rich than ever deck'd a Syrian Bow'r: Thro Worlds of Fragrance, Worlds of Light, we fly,

Beneath, O! God, thine ever-watchful Eye: Enhanc'd our Pleasures, and improv'd our Pow'rs,

The happy there shall never number Hours. Array'd with Glory shall the Just endure, In unmolested Joys, and ever pure.

E'en now perhaps the venerable Shade Retires with Angels to some heav'nly Glade: See thy own Locke, my Lord, the Converse join,

NEWTON profound, and TILLOTSON divine, Revolving in their Breasts the Turns of Fate, What anxious Moments in the human State, Him the most bless'd they deem who early'st dy'd.

And pity Monarchs in their purple Pride. In the bright Realms of everlasting Rest,

Where CLARKE illustrious shines among the bless'd,

Superior Merit shall obtain the Prize,

The Man who look'd on all with friendly Eyes, Who fought for Truth thro Virtue more than

Fame;

Such late was SHAFTSB'RY, never-dying Name!

Heroic Souls, the Sons of Empire, there,
Who view'd their Kingdoms with paternal Care,
Who made their Wills subservient to the Law,
Such was our BRUNSWICK late, and such
NASSAU,

Shall meet, while Earth preserves their just Renown,

For transient Pomp an ever-during Crown:
And there the Champions who for Freedom flood,

Of Danger fearless for the public Good, Men who, untaught to tyrant Pow'r to yield, Pursu'd fair Honour thro the martial Field, Like MARLB'ROUGH who sustain'd the glorious Strife;

And who like CA'NDISH grac'd a private Life, Whose mortal Parts among his Fathers sleep, While Virtue, Learning, and Augustus, weep.

Hail Shades triumphant! Hail Examples bright

Of Worth exalted to those Worlds of Light!
Where the great Statesman shall securely rise,
Beyond the poys'nous Ken of envious Eyes,
To whom no Merit e'er apply'd in vain,
Of whom the worthless can alone complain,
Who ne'er deceiv'd his Friend, nor broke his
Vow;

Such was GODOLPHIN, fuch is WALPOLE now.

In ever-smiling Scenes the pious Train,
Priests who like HOADLEY sacred Truths
maintain,

Who strive by Reason to convince their Foes, And with a Christian Meekness Rage oppose, Shall breathe the Sweetness of eternal Spring, Where laugh the Mountains, and the Valleys sing; Where Joys on Joys arise, where all is gay, Enliven'd by the never-closing Day.

Far hence away are cast the impious Race,
Rebels to Virtue, and the World's Disgrace;
No Tyrant, whose Delight was Blood, is there,
Nor he who look'd unmov'd on human Care:
Nor views Hypocricy the Face of God,
Nor Persecution with her iron Rod.
Alike excluded the celestial Plain
Are the detracting and the flatt'ring Train:
Nor to the Bow'rs of Paradise are led
The Nymphs unfaithful to the nuptial Bed;
Nor the false Swain is there, whose treach'rous
Part

Was to seduce, then break, the tender Heart. Far shall they wander from the Lawns of Joy, Who for their own another's Peace destroy:
Array'd with Brightness shall they shine above Who look on all Mankind with Eyes of Love.

May Heav'n, O PEMBROKE, all our Vows regard,

And long detain Thee from thy last Reward, 'E're the great Souls of Paradise you join, Before those Arborets of Bliss are thine! How oft' attentive have I pass'd the Day, Led on, O! Wisdom, in thy pleasing Way, While on the classic Page thy Son refin'd, Or with eternal Truths enrich'd my Mind! Roll on, ye Suns, your annual Courses keep Long 'e're the great Man leaves the World to weep.

SATURDAY, July 26. 1729.

LETTER IX.

Observations on some Passages of Sir Isaac Newton's Chronology of antient Kingdoms amended.

To the Author of the London Journal.

SIR,

F I presume to make some few Observations on fuch Passages as I think liable to Objection in that last and great Work of Sir ISAAC NEWTON, his Chronology of antient Kingdoms amended, in which he has endeavoured to fettle those memorable Transactions, the Argonautic Expedition, the Trojan War, and the Return of the Heraclides, with much Learning and Industry, I defire the Reader not to think that I offer to strike at the Foundation of that Work, but at fuch Paffages as appear like Spots on a refulgent Shield. With all due Reverence to the Memory of our learned Author, I shall point out the Passages as they stand in the Course of my Observations.

Objection 1. Sir Isaac Newton makes Homer to have flourished, supposing Hesiod and him to have been Cotemporarys, which he thinks from the Authority of Herodotus, within 30, or 35, Years after the Wars of Troy. The Argument which I shall bring against this is from Homer himself, submitting it, with my following Remarks, to the Consideration of better Judges. Let us examine the following Words from the fifth Book of the Iliad.

ο δε χερμαδιον λάβε χειρί Τυδείδης, μέχα έργον, δε δύο γ' ανδρε φέροιεν, Οἷοι νῦν βροτοί εις.

Tydides took up a Stone in his Hand, so great the Weight, that two Men, such Mortals as now are, cannot lift.

If the Poet here intended to express the Degeneracy of human Nature in Strength of Body, the Time in which he lived must be more distant from the Trojan War than Sir Isaac Newton assigns. The Disparity in Strength could not be imagined to be fo great in so short a Space of Time as 30, or 35. Years. If what our Chronologer fays is true, the Poet only defigned to denote the extraordinary Strength of Diomed beyond other Men. Therefore either a false Construction has been always made of this Passage; or, which I cannot believe, the Passage itself is among the Innovations of the Iliad, else the Age of Homer is not justly fixed. The Words οίοι νῦν βροτοι εισ' will, I think, bear no other Sense than that in which they have been always took; and that Virgil so understood

them we are certain from his strict Imitation of them.

Vix illud lecti bis sex Cervice subirent, Qualia nunc Hominum producit Corpora Tellus. Æn. Lib. 12.

So vast that twelve strong Men, of modern Days,

Th' enormous Weight from Earth could hardly raise. Dryden.

Other Poets have used the same Thought, obferving, as Virgit has, the Distance of Time.

Objection 2. Our Author fays, Homer and Hefiod wrote before the Greeks and Egyptions corrupted their Antiquitys. I fear they can reither be fayed to have wrote before their Antiquitys were corrupted, nor to be free from contributing towards the Corruption of them. He fied, according to the Account which Sir Isaac Newton gives, flourished 870 Years before Christ; and the Deification of the Son of Simele, by Orpheus, in the Name of Bacchus. was 72 Years before Hesiod; which was a fecond Deity of the same Name intruded into the Theology, by the Craft of Orpheus, to deceive the Croud, and conceal the Shame of the polluted Lady. We likewise see, from the Theogony of Hesiod, that the Greeks had excluded most of the Gods of Egypt, for those of their own Country, and of later Birth. Some may object that He find intended not all the

the Names in his Theogony for real Persons, but some for Parts of Nature in Prosopopæias; granting he defigned them as fuch, the applying many Names, which were before appropriated to Persons, to a fabulous Use, must cause a Confusion afterwards. Had the Greeks, after they had turned out the Gods of Egypt, for the Sake of introducing those of their own Country, let the Egyptian Antiquitys remain unfullyed with Additions of their Invention, and made their own Fables accord with each other, what our Author fays would be true; but we find the contrary. In the Story of Prometheus much of the historical Truth of Egypt is mixed with the Fiction of Greece: nor is this all; we find direct Contradictions. Homer makes Venus the Wife of Vulcan, and Hesiod makes Aglaia, one of the Graces, his Wife. Whence it is plain, be the Account of either historical or allegorical, their Theology was confounded. I could give more Instances of this Nature, but I think these sufficient to countenance this Objection.

Objection 3. Our Author observes, from Plutarch, that the People of Naxus would have two Minos's, and two Ariadnes; the first Ariadne was marryed to Bacchus, and the last carryed away by Theseus; but Hesiod, and some other Writers which he names, he says, knew but of one Minos. What he says may be true, but the Inference which he makes from the Words of Hesiod is wrong.

Χρυσοκόμης ή Διώνυσος ξανθήν Αριαδνην, Κέρην Μίνως, Θαλερήν ποιήσατ ακειτίν.

Bacchus, conspicuous with his golden Hair, Thee, Ariadne, weds, a beauteous Fair, From Minos sprung. Theog.

Had the Poet known of another Ariadne, the Daughter of another Minos, who was carryed away by Thefeus, he would have mentioned neither of them in his Theogony; because, as neither of them were Deitys, he would have deviated from the Design of his Poem in naming them. I am sensible this Remark does not weaken the Assertion of the being but one Minos and one Ariadne; but I was willing to shew the Impropriety of making an Inference where it is not to be made.

Objection 4. The Fable, tays Sir Isaac Newton, of the four Ages, seems to have been made by the Curetes in the fourth Age, in Memory of the first four Ages of their coming into Europe, as into a new World; and in Honour of their Countrywoman Europa, and her Husband Asterius, the Saturn of the Latins, and of her Son Minos, the Cretan Jupiter, and Grandson Deucalion, who reigned till the Argonautic Expedition, and is sometimes reckoned among the Argonauts, and of their Great-grandson Idomeneus, who war'd at Troy. Hesiod tells us, that he himself lived in the fifth Age. This Origin

Origin of the four Ages our Author lays down as a Conjecture; and indeed the Fable may possibly be derived from this Circumstance; yet to think Hesiod intended the Ages which he describes to contain no more than so many Generations, and each Generation about thirty Years, according to the Computation of our Chronologer, is certainly wrong. If this Fable had the Rise which our Author supposes, the Poet has greatly corrupted the Antiquitys of Greece in his Account; or his own Text has been much corrupted since his Days. Let us examine these Verses.

'Αλλ' έκα δον μέν παις έπεα παρα μητέρι κεδνή Ετρέφετ' ατάλλων, μέχα νήπιος, ῷ ἐνὶ ὅικω.

An hundred Years the careful Dames employ, Before they form to Man th' unpolish'd Boy. Works and Days. B. 1.

According to the Sense of these Lines, the Sons of the silver Age must have lived as many Years as included four or five Generations of Men. Therefore unless a better Reading than inclov, which Nobody yet has ventured to correct, is found out, we must construe the Ages in Hesiod to be much longer than ordinary Generations: moreover, we find the Heroes who warred at Thebes and those who warred at Troy all contained in the fourth Age as described by our Poet.

Objection 5. Our Author tells us, the golden Cup of Semiramis was preferved till the Conquest of Crassus by Darius the Mede; which was five Hundred and forty nine Years before Christ. He thinks, for which Reason, it is improbable for her to have lived fo many Ages before that Time as Chronologers have generally reckoned. Pul, the first King of Assyria, was feven hundred and ninety Years before Christ; whose Son he supposes to have been the Husband of Semiramis. Therefore. by his own Calculation, the Cup lasted near two hundred and forty one Years; and it might have lasted longer, for we are not told Darius loft it. The same Care sure which preserved it thro near two hundred and forty one Years, would preferve it as many more. Therefore the Inference which he draws from this can carry no Force with it.

The few Remarks which I have hear made, and which I submit to the Judgement of the Reader, may induce other Persons to peruse the Work with Care, and thereby to discover what other Errors are unobserved by me. The Goodness of my Intent, I hope, will excuse

my Prefumption.

Atticus.

SATURDAY. May 2. 1730.

LETTER X.

A Discourse on the present Posture of Affairs, with an Abstract of the Treaty of Seville.

To the Author of the London Journal.

SIR,

7 HILE I am, in some Degree, provoked by the unbounded Freedom which some Persons take with the Conduct of their Superiore, I cannot forbear finiling at the Impotence of their Malice; their Darts are aimed at one far above their Power, whom they endeavour to wound by infufing difrespectful Sentiments of him into the People: this is the Battel that they fight, and the Fall of Virtue only would be the Cause of their Triumph. When we reflect on the base and mean Artifices which they use to obtain their End, our Difdain almost disarms us of our Anger. The brave is branded with the Name of a Coward; and the Man whose Ears are always open to the Requests of the worthy, and from whose Hands no Merit ever went unrewarded.

warded, is accused of Avarice; in short, every Virtue in him is by them converted to an opposite Vice. These are some of the infamous Methods which they follow, to decry exalted Worth; and for these Reasons they incur the Contempt and Hate of every honest Mind.

I shall here endeavour to shew on what an unreasonable Ground the Clamours of these Malecontents against the present Administration are founded. I shall not pretend to go back to former Treatys, that being too tedious and unnecessary a Work here; but begin my Examination with the Complaints of the People for the late Impediments to the Spanish Trade; which Complaints the Duty of those who are at the Head of our Affairs was to remove, and to consult at the same Time the Profit and Honour of the Nation. Let us see how far this Duty has been discharged.

Gibraltar was demanded of us by the Spaniards; which was refused, and with the general Approbation of the Subjects of Great Britain. It was besieged, and manfully and successfully defended. We are not therefore to wonder if the Spaniards were angry with us; nor that their Anger was attended with the Oppression of our Merchants; for one is a

natural Consequence of the other.

In this Case what was to be consulted but the restoring that Harmony to the two Kingdoms, which is necessary towards the carrying on that Commerce which is so beneficial to them both, and so much desired! Is any one

so unconscionable and ridiculous as to expect that Spain should make any disadvantageous Concessions more than Great Britain? We have shewed that we will not submit to the Demands of our Neighbours, when they are not confiftent with our Honour, by maintaining our Right to Gibraltar in the Manner in which we have. If a Peace cannot be concluded and established betwixt these two Powers, without our giving into the Succession of Don Carlos to the Italian Dominions, we are to weigh the Advantages and Disadvantages arifing to us from that Succession; and from the Articles of Peace, and what some Writers have fayed on this Head, every reasonable Person is convinced, we have a Profit in confenting to the Succession of Don Carlos.

I doubt not that every good and prudent Subject is well fatisfyed with the Methods which his Majesty has followed to reduce the Enemy to fuch Terms, as are for his own Glory, and the Benefit of his People. At the fame time that a Peace was fought, he convinced the Spaniard that he had the Power to compel him to what he would gain on amicacable Conditions. While the Fleet lay at Spithead, we might reasonably expect the Alarm of fuch an Armada would make Spain more modest in her Proposals than otherwise she would be, from the Apprehensions of the Danger which fuch a Preparation threatened her with. This was, in every Respect, the Proceeding of a wife Prince, who has both Prudence

Prudence and Courage to affert his Right. He held the Olive in one Hand, and the uplifted Sword in the other. If the Foe was deaf to the Voice of Reason, he could have forced him to what his Heart chose rather to perfuade him; and I am sure every Man of Virtue and Wisdom would admit of some Delays, that he might gain peaceably what he

might take by Violence.

Some have affirmed that we have feen, from what has passed these last three Years, what the Expence of a War will amount to. I shall condescend to let these Gentlemen know that we cannot fee, from what has paffed these last three Years, what are the Expences of a War. We want not to be told that the Expence is great in fitting out fuch a Fleet as our; but the Necessity of the Times demanded it, and for the Reasons which I before laved down; and while it ferved to awe the Foe into Terms, we faved an immense Waste of naval Store, and the Blood of thousands, which perhaps these Malecontents set at no Price; besides if we had precipitately engaged in a War, who could prefume to date the Conclusion of it? So long as that should last, would the Complaints of the Subject continue for the Want of the Spanish Trade. To these certain Grievances let us add the many unforeseen ill Confequences of a dreadful War. I would not be thought to argue for an inglorious Peace, for fuch it is not when the Foe is awed by our Power,

Power, and prevailed on by the Justice of our Counsels.

These, I am persuaded, are the Sentiments of every unprejudiced Person concerning the present Posture of Affairs, since the Articles of Peace between Great Britain, France, and Spain, confirm the Wisdom which his late and present Majesty have shewed in their Proceedings previous to these Articles.

An Abstract of the Treaty signed at Seville

the ninth of November 1729.

1

T.

We now see all former Treatys to our Advantage renewed.

II.

In this Allyance the Expence, when Affistance is required, is to be reciprocal betwixt the three Kingdoms.

III.

The King of Spain agrees that no Article betwixt the Emperor and him, in the Treaty of Vienna of 1725, shall subsist, if contrary to the Treatys of Commerce antecedent thereto.

IV.

Commerce is established on the Foot of the Treatys before the Year 1725, and particularly that of the English in America.

V.

Reparations are to be made to England by Spain for Damages sustained since the Time prescribed by the Preliminarys for the Cessation of Hostilitys.

VI.

Commissarys are to be appointed, by Great Britain and Spain, to inspect into the Damages sustained, and to make a faithful Report thereof.

VII.

Commissarys must be likewise appointed by France and Spain to examine into Grievances.

VIII.

The layed Commissarys are to finish their Commission within the Space of three Years, or sooner if possible, from the signing the present Treaty.

IX.

The King of Spain is immediately to introduce fix thousand Men into Leghorn, Porto ferraio, Parma, and Placentia, to secure the Succession of Don Carlos.

X.

The contracting Powers are to interest themselves in applying to the Great Duke of Tuscany cany and the Duke of Parma, for the quiet Introduction of the aforesayed Troops into their respective Places. The sayed Garrisons are to take an Oath to defend the Sovereignty of the present Possessor, as far as shall be consistent with the Security of the Succession of Don Carlos.

XI.

The King of Spain promises as soon as his Son Don Carlos, or his Heirs, shall be firmly established in Tuscany, Parma, and Placentia, to withdraw his Troops.

XII.

The contracting Powers engage themselves to defend Don Carlos, and his Heirs, in the Possession of these Places, declaring themselves, by this Treaty Guarantees, for the Succession, for ever.

XIII.

Great Britain and France promise to guarantee the Agreement, that Spain shall make with the Great Duke and the Duke of Parma.

XIV.

The States General, and other Powers, are to be invited into this Treaty.

Separate Articles.

T.

The Treaty of Peace and Commerce concluded at *Utrecht* 1713, and other advantageous Treatys, are included in this Treaty.

II.

The Ship Prince Frederick, and other Effects, which have been seized, not on Account of unlawful Commerce, are to be restored, or the Value thereof.

We here fee three of the greatest Powers in Europe in Allyance, and the States General have fince made a fourth: and as for those Princes or States which may hereafter oppose this Treaty, which for their own Sakes I believe will be but few, they can never be formidable enough to make us apprehensive of Danger from them. Commerce shall once more upraise her Head; and our Merchants shall not only have Reparation for Seizures already made, but be freed from the fear of future Impediments to their Trade. The whole Ocean is now their own, and every Port shall receive their Ships with Gladness. Complaints for Convoys are now ceased, which are rendered needless by a Treaty, the Consequences of which are Peace, Wealth, and Glory.

Tho we see in this Treaty every Article which we could reasonably desire, yet are the Clamours of the discontented Party as loud as if they were all sold to Slavery; and could these Articles be exchanged for such as they pretend to wish, I doubt not but the Cry would soon be as loud to have them restored to what they now are: forbear therefore, ye idle Dissurbers of the Peace of a Kingdom, nor think ye have a Right to trisse with all Authority, and to confound Distinctions.

Atticus.

The END.

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ARTHERS

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